GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

ABSTRACT

A.P.Port Department – Inland Water Transport — Boat Registration/license - Review of Boat Safety measures by all the Departments – Designating the Department of Ports as Competent Authority for Boat Survey, Registration and Management under A.P. Inland Vessel Rules-2017 – Orders – Issued.

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ENERGY, INFRASTRUCTURE & INVESTMENT (PORTS.II) DEPARTMENT

G.O.MS.No. 14 Dated: 08-06-2018.

Read the following :

1. G.O.Ms.No.26, E, I&I (Ports.II) Dept., dated 08-11-2017
2. G.O.Rt.No.670, Water Resources (WRG-GRC) Dept., Dt.20-11-2017
3. Letter No.02/Adv/2017-18-3, dated 09-03-2018 from the Committee on Inland Waterways, AP, Vijayawada.
4. Letter No.18021/64/2018, E, I&I (Ports.II) Dept., Dated 18-05-2018 & 31-05-2018

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ORDER:

In the G.O. first read above, the Government has notified A.P. Inland Vessel Rules-2017 under Inland Vessel Act, 1917 to govern and monitor the boats plying in river waters and seawaters. The said rules have comprehensive procedures for Construction, Survey and Registration of Boats along with detailed Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Life Saving and Fire fighting mechanism on the boats in emergencies.

2. In the G.O. second read above, Government appointed 3 Men Committee on Inland Water Ways to suggest and way forward by studying the National and International best practices in the field of Inland Water Ways Transportation and Tourism and to make comprehensive recommendations on the management of Water Ways Traffic including its registration, licensing, regulation and safety.

3. In the reference 3rd read above, the Committee on Inland Water Ways submitted its Interim report on 09-03-2018 wherein the committe opined that the procedures followed for Survey & Registration of River Boats under "The Canal and Public Ferry Act, 1890" are obsolete and doesn't suit to the contemporary present day requirements. Therefore, the Committee recommended that all the Boats plying in the river waters of Andhra Pradesh needs to be registered under A.P. Inland Vessels Rules, 2017 for better safety standards.

4. In the reference 4th read above, Government at the highest level had deliberated on the unfortunate boat mishaps that occurred in the River Krishna and Godavari and has decided that there is a need for a single nodal agency which shall monitor the entire boat safety measures including survey, registration, licensing and enforcement for maintaining safety standards.

5. Government after careful examination of the matter, hereby issue orders that the Department of Ports shall be the Competent Authority for Boat Survey, Registration and Management under the A.P. Inland Vessel Rules-2017 in all the Waterways.

6. The District Collectors and Commissioners of Police/Superintendents of Police in the State are instructed to ensure that the boats having valid permits issued by the Competent Authority of Department of Ports shall only be allowed to ply in the river waters and water sports in the sea waters. Further, they are instructed to issue necessary instructions to their respective Subordinate Offices/Agencies/Organisations under their control to ensure compliance in this matter.

(P.t.o)

7. The Water Resources Department is requested to stop issuing licenses henceforth as per "The Canal and Public Ferries Act, 1890."

8. The Tourism Department is requested to ensure that all the Water Sports & Water Tourism Operators shall mandatorily adhere to the provision of the AP Inland Vessel Rules-2017.

9. The Director of Ports, AP, Kakinada is requested to study the best practices in the Country and the World keeping in view of the recommendations given by the three Men Committee appointed by the Government. He is also requested to furnish a detailed proposal for additional resources and manpower in view of the entrustment of additional responsibility of the management of the Inland Water Transport and Associated Water Sport activities.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

AJAY JAIN
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Director of Ports, A.P., Kakinada.
The Water Resources Department
The Tourism Department
All the District Collectors in the State of Andhra Pradesh
All the Commissioners of Police in the State of Andhra Pradesh.
All the Superintendents of Police in the State of Andhra Pradesh.
Copy to :
OSD to Chief Secretary to Government.
PS to Prl.Secretary to C.M.,
PS to Spl.Chief Secretary to Govt., Revenue Dept.
PS to Prl.Secretary to Govt., Home Dept.,
PS to Prl.Secretary to Govt., Water Resources Dept.,
PS to Secretary to Govt, Tourism Department.,
PS to Prl.Secretary to Govt, A,H,D,D&F (Fisheries) Department.
PS to Prl.Secretary to Govt., Energy, I&I Dept.,
The G.A (Cabinet) Department
Sf/Sc (E-File C.No.18021/64/2018-Ports.II)

// FORWARDED :: BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER